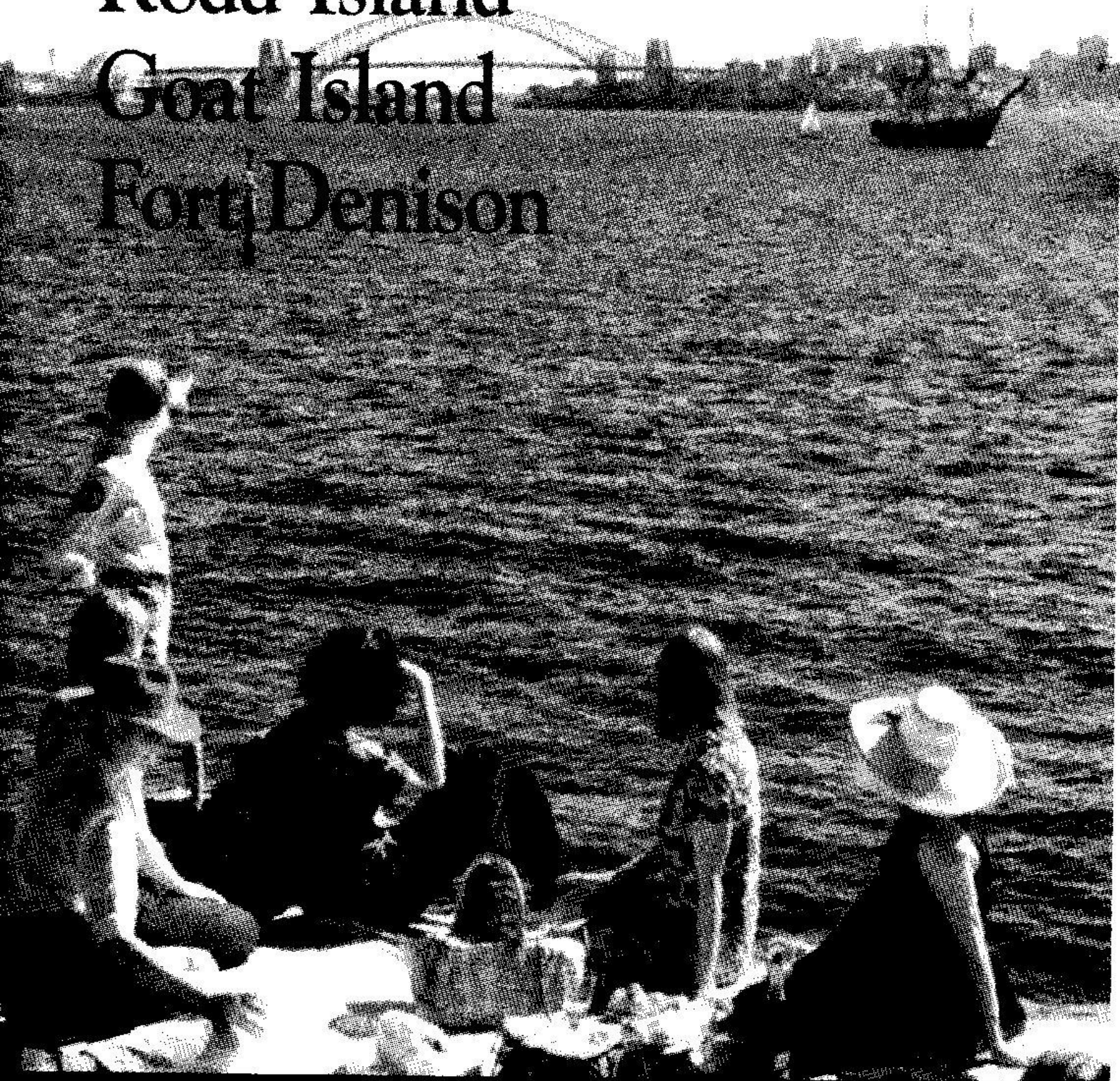
INFORMATION

The Islands

Shark Island
Clark Island
Rodd Island
Goat Island
Fort Denison



Sydney Harbour
National Park

NSW
NATIONAL
PARKS AND
WILDLIFE
SERVICE

Sydney Harbour National Park

Shark Island • Clark Island • Rodd Island • Goat Island • Fort Denison

Shark Island

Location: Sydney Harbour near Rose Bay
Size: 1.5 hectares
Capacity: 250 max. per group
500 max on island

Historical background:
Shark Island is said to have resembled a shark and the shallow waters around it presented a constant danger to shipping, especially with the growth of trade in the early 19th century. Between 1880 and 1975, the island was used as an animal quarantine area, a public recreation reserve and a naval storage depot. It became part of Sydney Harbour National Park in 1975.

Recreational use:
The gazebo on top of Shark Island can accommodate up to 30 people and offers great harbour views. Picnic tables are dotted across the large grassy area that is surrounded by shady trees. Explore the rocky foreshore, the hand-built grottos and the island's sandy beaches.

Facilities: Drinking water and toilets.

Special Event use: Price on application.

Clark Island

Location: Sydney Harbour near Darling Point
Size: 1 hectare
Capacity: 30 max. per group
150 max. on island

Historical background:
In 1789, Lieutenant Ralph Clark, one of Governor Phillip's marines from the First Fleet, tried to cultivate a vegetable garden on Clark Island. He abandoned the idea when the crops were repeatedly pilfered. Ever since, the island has been known by his name. Clark Island became part of Sydney Harbour National Park in 1975.

Recreational use:
Small groups, especially families, use Clark Island as a picnic area because of its peaceful atmosphere.

Hidden paths lead you through the natural bushland to secluded grassy areas scattered over the island. There are picnic tables on the flat grassy area along the foreshore.

Facilities: Drinking water and toilets.

Special Event use: Price on application.

Rodd Island

Location: Iron Cove near Birkenhead Point
Size: 0.5 hectare
Capacity: 50 max. per group
100 max. on island

Historical background:
In 1859, Brent Rodd, a local landowner, paid a deposit for Rodd Island which was later forfeited and the island dedicated as a reserve for public recreation. In the late 1800s, the island was used as a biological research station under instructions from Dr Louis Pasteur. It became part of Sydney Harbour National Park in 1982.

Recreational use:
Summer houses, dating back to the 1920s, shelter up to 25 people and contain long picnic tables. Palm trees dot the flat grassy area near the shore.

The main attraction on Rodd Island is its colonial-style hall, built in 1889.

Facilities: Drinking water and toilets.

Special Event use: Price on application.

Fort Denison

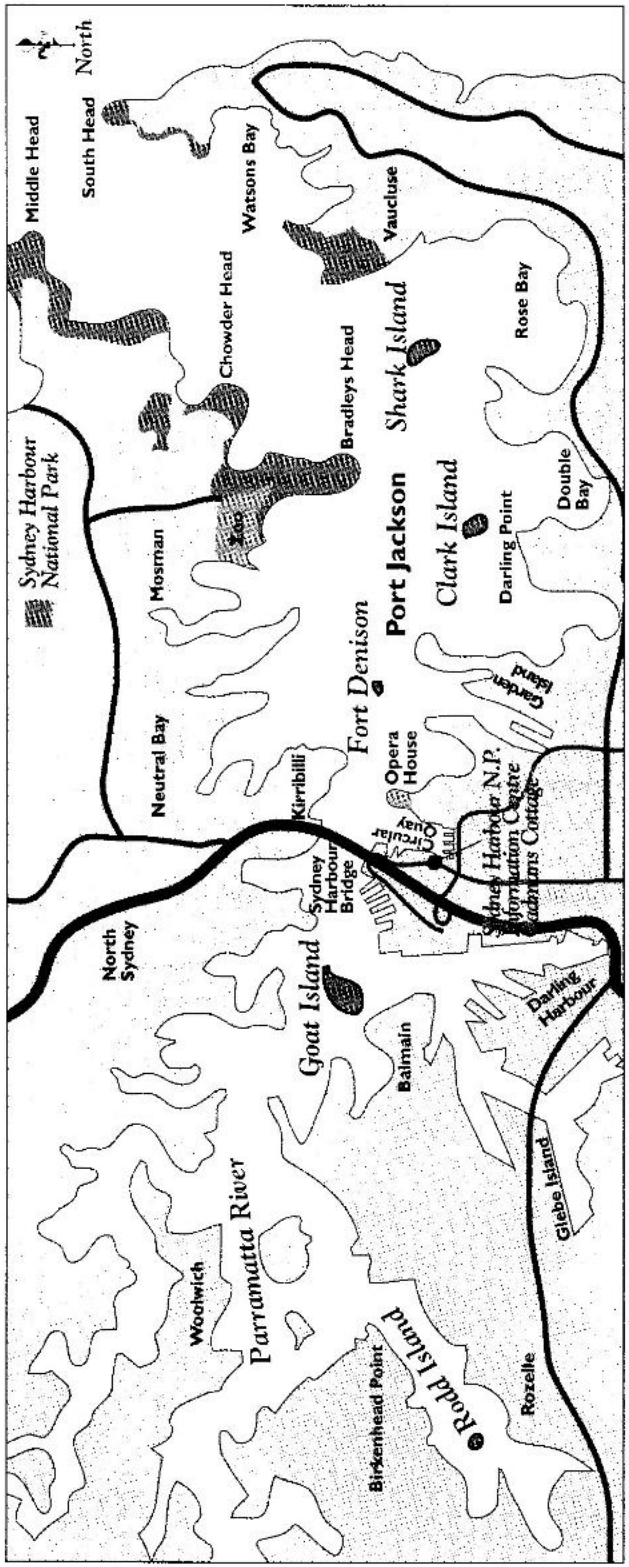
Location: Sydney Harbour, near the Opera House.
Fort Denison is closed for major conservation work and will reopen mid 2000 with guided tours, new displays and a cafe.

Goat Island

Location: Sydney Harbour, near East Balmain.
You can join one of the regular NPWS tours of Goat Island. Come on the Heritage tour and you'll see the convict-built Queen's Gunpowder Magazine, the quarry and 'Bony' Anderson's couch. Prowl around the island by lantern light on the Gruesome Tales tour and hear tales of the island's grisly and oppressive past. Join a Water Rats tour and go behind the scenes of Sydney's hottest police drama to witness the wonders of TV production.
School holiday activities are also conducted.

Special Event use: Price on application.

For information on tours and special events, contact Sydney Harbour National Park Information Centre phone (02) 9247 5033.



Bookings

Shark, Clark and Rodd islands are open every day from 9.00 am to sunset. All visits to the islands must be prebooked and prepaid. Access to Goat Island and Fort Denison is by guided tour only. Bookings are essential.

Access

Access to Shark, Clark and Rodd islands is through licensed boat operators or private vessels only. Contact details of these operators are avaliable on request. Vessels are not permitted to moor at any wharves.
Please remove all rubbish as bins are not provided.

Landing fee

$3.00 per person, children under 5 years free. Fees are exclusive of GST and are subject to change.

Further information

Sydney Harbour National Park Information Centre
Cadmans Cottage, 110 George Street
The Rocks Sydney NSW 2000

Phone: (02) 9247 5033, Fax: (02) 9241 3303

Open 9.30 am to 4.30 pm weekdays,
10.00 am to 4.30 pm weekends.

Closed Christmas day and Good Friday.

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Fax: 02 9585 6555 **Web site:** www.npws.nsw.gov.au

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